

**BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. PU-439-02-441  
AND BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION IN WC DOCKET NO. 19-90**

**AFFIDAVIT OF JAMES VALLEY COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE COMPANY  
REGARDING  
CERTIFICATION OF USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT**

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

SS

COUNTY OF BROWN

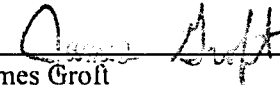
James Groft, being first duly sworn on oath, does hereby declare and state upon affiant's own personal knowledge as follows:

1. Affiant is employed by James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company (hereinafter, the "Cooperative"), in the position of CEO.
2. The Cooperative is an eligible telecommunications carrier within the meaning of Section 214(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (hereinafter, the "Act"), and the Cooperative is eligible to receive federal high-cost universal service support (hereinafter, the "Support") pursuant to Section 254(e) of the Act. The North Dakota Public Service Commission (hereinafter, the "NDPSC") has designated the Cooperative as an eligible telecommunications carrier.
3. Affiant is personally familiar with all of the Support received by the Cooperative, and with how the Cooperative uses all Support it receives.
4. The Cooperative is filing this affidavit in compliance with the order of the Federal Communication Commission (hereinafter, "FCC") dated May 23, 2001, in WC Docket Number 10-90 (FCC 01-157) (hereinafter, the "Order"), as codified in 47 C.F.R. § 54.314, which requires certification to the FCC that all federal Support was used in the preceding calendar year, and will be used in the coming calendar year, by carriers within each state only for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, as required by Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Cooperative is also filing this affidavit in compliance with the Orders of the NDPSC dated August 28, 2001, in Case No. PU-439-01-460 and dated August 28, 2002, in Case No. PU-439-02-441. This affidavit is filed to facilitate the Cooperative's receipt of federal Support for all four quarters of 2014 and for all quarter thereafter.
5. The Cooperative hereby certifies that all federal high-cost support provided to James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of

facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to and consistent with Section 254(c) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Cooperative will use the Support for the following services, as designated in 47 C.F.R. Section 54.101, through the Cooperative's study area: (a) voice grade access to the public switched network or its functional equivalent; (b) minutes of use for local service at no additional charge; (c) access to emergency services; and (d) toll limitation services to qualifying low-income consumers.

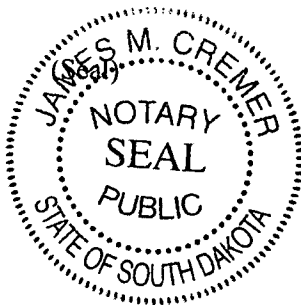
Dated this 2nd day of September, 2015.

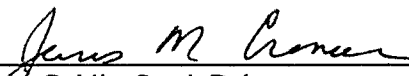
**JAMES VALLEY COOPERATIVE  
TELEPHONE COMPANY**

  
By: James Groft  
Its: CEO

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA  
SS  
COUNTY OF BROWN

In this 2nd day of September, 2015, before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared **James Groft**, known to me to be the CEO of **James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company**, the cooperative that is described in and that executed the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that such cooperative executed the same.



  
Notary Public, South Dakota  
My Comm. Expires: 1/27/2021

**BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO.  
PU-439-02-441 AND BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
IN DOCKET NO. 96-45**

**AFFIDAVIT OF RESERVATION TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE REGARDING  
CERTIFICATION OF USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT**

State of North Dakota       )  
  ) ss.  
County Of Mountrail        )

Shane D. Hart, being first duly sworn on oath, does hereby declare and state upon affiant's own personal knowledge as follows:

1. Affiant is employed by Reservation Telephone Cooperative (hereinafter, the "company"), in the position of CEO/General Manager.
2. The Company is an eligible telecommunications carrier within the meaning of Section 214(e) of the Federal Telecommunication Act of 1996 (hereinafter, the "ACT"), and the Company is eligible to receive federal high-cost universal service support (hereinafter, the "Support") pursuant to Section 254(e) of the Act. The North Dakota Public Service Commission (hereinafter, the "NDPSC") has designated the Company as an eligible telecommunications carrier.
3. Affiant is personally familiar with all of the Support received by the Company and with how the Company uses all of Support that it receives.
4. The Company is filing this affidavit in compliance with the order of the Federal Communication Commission (hereinafter, "FCC") dated May 23, 2001 in Docket Number 96-45 (FCC 01-157) (hereinafter, the "Order"), as codified in 47 C.F.R. § 54.314, which requires certification to the FCC that all federal Support will be used by carriers within each state only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, as required by Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Company is also filing this affidavit in compliance with the Orders of the NDPSC dated August 28, 2001, in Case No. PU-439-01-460 and dated August 28, 2002, in Case No. PU-439-02-441. This affidavit is filed to facilitate the Company's receipt of federal Support for all four quarters of 2014, and for all quarters thereafter.

Federal high cost support provided to Reservation Telephone Cooperative was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the Support is intended pursuant to and consistent with Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Company will use the Support to support the following services, as designated in 47 C.F.R. § 54.101, throughout the Company's study area: (a) voice grade access to the public switched network; (b) local usage; (c) dual-tone multi-frequency signaling or its functional equivalent; (d) single-party service or its functional equivalent; (e) access to emergency services; (f) access to operator services; (g) access to interexchange service; (h) access to directory assistance; and (i) toll limitation for qualifying low income consumers.

Dated this 10<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2015.

## RESERVATION TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE

By

Shane D. Hart

Its: CEO/General Manager

State of North Dakota)

)ss.

County of Mountrail )

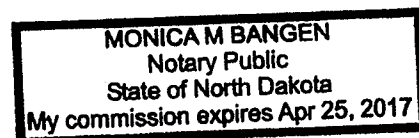
On this 10<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2015, before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared Shane D. Hart, known to me to be the CEO/General Manager of Reservation Telephone Cooperative, the corporation that is described in and that executed the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that such corporation executed the same.

Monica M. Bungen

\_\_\_\_\_, Notary Public

For the State of North Dakota

My commission expires: 4-25-2017



BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. PU-439-02-441  
AND BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION IN WC DOCKET NO. 10-90

AFFIDAVIT OF MIDSTATE TELEPHONE COMPANY  
REGARDING  
CERTIFICATION OF USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT

State of North Dakota     )  
                                      ) ss.  
County of Mountrail     )

Ryan Wilhelmi, being first duly sworn on oath, does hereby declare and state upon affiant's own personal knowledge as follows:

1. Affiant is employed by Midstate Telephone Company (hereinafter, the "Company"), in the position of Manager.

2. The Company is an eligible telecommunications carrier within the meaning of Section 214(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (hereinafter, the "Act"), and the Company is eligible to receive federal high-cost universal service support (hereinafter, the "Support") pursuant to Section 254(e) of the Act. The North Dakota Public Service Commission (hereinafter, the "NDPSC") has designated the Company as an eligible telecommunications carrier.

3. Affiant is personally familiar with all of the Support received by the Company, and with how the Company uses all of Support that it receives.

4. The Company is filing this affidavit in compliance with the order of the Federal Communication Commission (hereinafter, "FCC") dated May 23, 2001, in WC Docket Number 10-90 (FCC 01-157) (hereinafter, the "Order"), as codified in 47 C.F.R. § 54.314, which requires certification to the FCC that all federal Support was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year by carriers within each state only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, as required by Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Company is also filing this affidavit in compliance with the Orders of the NDPSC dated August 28, 2001, in Case No. PU-439-01-460 and dated August 28, 2002, in Case No. PU-439-02-441. This affidavit is filed to facilitate the Company's receipt of federal Support for all four quarters of 2014 and for all quarters thereafter.

5. The Company hereby certifies that all federal high-cost support provided to Midstate Telephone Company was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to and consistent with Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Company will use the Support for the following services, as designated in 47 C.F.R. Section 54.101, throughout the Company's study area: (a) voice grade access to the public switched network or its functional

equivalent; (b) minutes of use for local service at no additional charge; (c) access to emergency services; and (d) toll limitation services to qualifying low-income consumers.

Dated this 2 day of Sept, 2015.

**MIDSTATE TELEPHONE COMPANY**

By *Ryan Wilhelm*  
Ryan Wilhelm  
Its: Manager

State of North Dakota     )  
  ) ss.  
County of Mountrail     )

On this 2 day of September, 2015, before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared RYAN WILHELM, known to me to be the Manager of MIDSTATE TELEPHONE COMPANY, the corporation that is described in and that executed the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that such corporation executed the same.

*Holly Kaiser*  
Notary Public  
For the State of North Dakota  
My commission expires: Sept 2, 2015

HOLLY KAISER Notary Public State of North Dakota My Commission Expires Sept 2, 2015
--

**BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. PU-439-02-441  
AND BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION IN WC DOCKET NO. 10-90**

**AFFIDAVIT OF MISSOURI VALLEY COMMUNICATIONS, INC.  
REGARDING  
CERTIFICATION OF USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT**

State of Montana     )  
                                  ) ss.  
County of Daniels    )

---

**AFFIDAVIT OF REMI SUN**

---

Remi Sun, being first duly sworn on oath, does hereby declare and state upon affiant's own personal knowledge as follows:

1. Affiant is employed by Missouri Valley Communications, Inc. (hereinafter, the "Company"), in the position of Chief Financial Officer.
2. The Company is an eligible telecommunications carrier within the meaning of Section 241(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (hereinafter, the "Act"), and the Company is eligible to receive federal high-cost universal service support (hereinafter, the "Support") pursuant to Section 254(e) of the Act. The North Dakota Public Service Commission (hereinafter, the "NDPSC") has designated the Company as an eligible telecommunications carrier.
3. Affiant is personally familiar with all of the Support received by the Company, and with how the Company uses all of Support that it receives.
4. The Company is filing this affidavit in compliance with the order of the Federal Communication Commission (hereinafter, "FCC") dated May 23, 2001, in WC Docket Number 10-90 (FCC 01-157) (hereinafter, the "Order"), as codified in 47 C.F.R. §54.314, which requires certification to the FCC that all federal Support was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year by carriers within each state only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, as required by Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. §54.7. The Company is also filing this affidavit in compliance with the Orders of the NDPSC dated August 28, 2001, in Case No. PU-439-01-460 and dated August 28, 2002, in Case No. PU-439-02-441. This affidavit is filed to

facilitate the Company's receipt of federal Support for all four quarters of 2015 and for all quarters thereafter.

5. The Company hereby certifies that all federal high-cost support provided to Missouri Valley Communications, Inc. was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to and consistent with Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. §54.7. The Company will use the Support for the following services, as designated in 47 C.F.R. Section 54.101, throughout the Company's study area: (a) voice grade access to the public switched network or its functional equivalent; (b) minutes of use for local service at no additional charge; (c) access to emergency services; and (d) toll limitation services to qualifying low-income consumers.

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2015

MISSOURI VALLEY COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

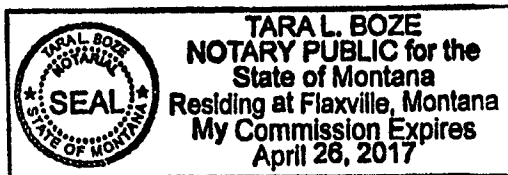
By [Signature]

Remi Sun

Its: Chief Financial Officer

State of Montana       )  
                                  ) ss.  
County of Daniels     )

On this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2015, before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared REMI SUN, known to me to be the Chief Financial Officer of MISSOURI VALLEY COMMUNICATIONS, INC., the corporation that is described in and this executed the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that such corporation executed the same.



[Signature], Notary Public

For the State of Montana

My Commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE PU-15-574  
AND BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION IN WC DOCKET NO. \_\_\_\_\_

AFFADAVIT OF RC TECHNOLOGIES  
REGARDING  
CERTIFICATION OF USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT

State of North Dakota            )  
  ) ss.  
County of Roberts                )

Scott Bostrom, being first duly sworn on oath, does hereby declare and state upon  
affiant's own person knowledge as follows:

1. Affiant is employed by RC Technologies (hereinafter, the "Company"), in the position  
of General Manger.
2. The Company is an eligible telecommunications carrier within the meaning of Section  
214(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (hereinafter, the "Act"), and  
the Company is eligible to receive federal high-cost universal support (hereinafter,  
the "Support") pursuant to Section 254(e) of the Act. The North Dakota Public  
Service Commission (hereinafter, the "NDPSC") has designated the Company as an  
eligible telecommunications carrier.
3. Affiant is personally familiar with all the Support received by the Company, and with  
how the Company uses all of the Support that it receives.
4. The Company is filing this affidavit in compliance with the order of the Federal  
Communications Commission (hereinafter, "FCC") dated May 23, 2001 in WC  
Docket Number 10-90 (FCC 01-157) (hereinafter, the "Order"), as codified in 47  
C.F.R. § 54.314, which requires certification to the FCC that all federal Support was  
used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year by  
carriers within each state only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of  
facilities and services for which the support is intended, as required by Section 254  
(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. §54.7. The Company is also filing this affidavit in  
compliance with the Orders of the NDPSC dated August 28, 2001, in Case No. PU-  
439-01-460 and dated August 28, 2002, in Case No. PU-439-02-441. This affidavit  
is filed to facilitate the Company's receipt of federal Support for all four quarters of  
2014 and for all quarters thereafter.
5. The Company hereby certifies that all federal high cost support provided to RC  
Technologies was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the  
coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities  
and services for which the support is intended pursuant to and consistent with

Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. §54.7. The Company will use the Support for the following services, as designated in 47 C.F.R. Section 54.101, throughout the Company's study area: (a) voice grade access to the public switched network or its functional equivalent; (b) minutes of use for local service at no additional charge; (c) access to emergency services; and (d) toll limitation services to qualifying low-income consumers.

Dated this 15<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2015.

RC TECHNOLOGIES

By Scott Bostrom  
Scott Bostrom  
Its: General Manager

State of North Dakota     )  
  ) ss.  
County of Roberts         )

On this 15<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2015, before me, a Notary Public in and for the said and County and State, personally appeared SCOTT BOSTROM, known to me to be the General Manager of RC TECHNOLOGIES, the corporation that is described in and that executed the within instrument and acknowledged to me that such corporation executed the same.



Robin E. Thoreson  
Notary Public  
For the State of South Dakota  
My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

My Commission Expires Oct. 27, 2016

**BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. PU-439-02-441  
AND BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION IN WC DOCKET NO. 10-90**

**AFFIDAVIT OF SAGEBRUSH CELLULAR, INC.  
REGARDING  
CERTIFICATION OF USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT**

State of Montana    )  
                              ) ss.  
County of Daniels    )

---

**AFFIDAVIT OF REMI SUN**

---

Remi Sun, being first duly sworn on oath, does hereby declare and state upon affiant's own personal knowledge as follows:

1. Affiant is employed by Sagebrush Cellular, Inc. (hereinafter, the "Company"), in the position of Chief Financial Officer.
2. The Company is an eligible telecommunications carrier within the meaning of Section 241(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (hereinafter, the "Act"), and the Company is eligible to receive federal high-cost universal service support (hereinafter, the "Support") pursuant to Section 254(e) of the Act. The North Dakota Public Service Commission (hereinafter, the "NDPSC") has designated the Company as an eligible telecommunications carrier.
3. Affiant is personally familiar with all of the Support received by the Company, and with how the Company uses all of Support that it receives.
4. The Company is filing this affidavit in compliance with the order of the Federal Communication Commission (hereinafter, "FCC") dated May 23, 2001, in WC Docket Number 10-90 (FCC 01-157) (hereinafter, the "Order"), as codified in 47 C.F.R. §54.314, which requires certification to the FCC that all federal Support was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year by carriers within each state only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, as required by Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. §54.7. The Company is also filing this affidavit in compliance with the Orders of the NDPSC dated August 28, 2001, in Case No. PU-439-01-460 and dated August 28, 2002, in Case No. PU-439-02-441. This affidavit is filed to

facilitate the Company's receipt of federal Support for all four quarters of 2015 and for all quarters thereafter.

5. The Company hereby certifies that all federal high-cost support provided to Sagebrush Cellular, Inc. was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to and consistent with Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. §54.7. The Company will use the Support for the following services, as designated in 47 C.F.R. Section 54.101, throughout the Company's study area: (a) voice grade access to the public switched network or its functional equivalent; (b) minutes of use for local service at no additional charge; (c) access to emergency services; and (d) toll limitation services to qualifying low-income consumers.

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2015

SAGEBRUSH CELLULAR, INC.

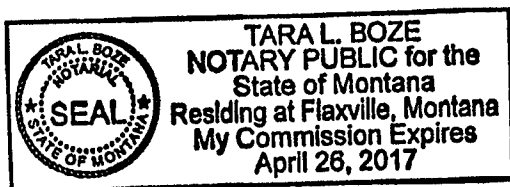
By [Signature]

Remi Sun

Its: Chief Financial Officer

State of Montana       )  
                                  ) ss.  
County of Daniels     )

On this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2015, before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared REMI SUN, known to me to be the Chief Financial Officer of SAGEBRUSH CELLULAR, INC., the corporation that is described in and this executed the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that such corporation executed the same.



[Signature], Notary Public  
For the State of Montana  
My Commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

**BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. PU-439-02-441  
AND BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION IN WC DOCKET NO. 10-90**

**AFFIDAVIT OF NEMONT TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.  
REGARDING  
CERTIFICATION OF USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT**

State of Montana    )  
                              ) ss.  
County of Daniels    )

---

**AFFIDAVIT OF REMI SUN**

---

Remi Sun, being first duly sworn on oath, does hereby declare and state upon affiant's own personal knowledge as follows:

1. Affiant is employed by Nemont Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (hereinafter, the "Company"), in the position of Chief Financial Officer.
2. The Company is an eligible telecommunications carrier within the meaning of Section 241(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (hereinafter, the "Act"), and the Company is eligible to receive federal high-cost universal service support (hereinafter, the "Support") pursuant to Section 254(e) of the Act. The North Dakota Public Service Commission (hereinafter, the "NDPSC") has designated the Company as an eligible telecommunications carrier.
3. Affiant is personally familiar with all of the Support received by the Company, and with how the Company uses all of Support that it receives.
4. The Company is filing this affidavit in compliance with the order of the Federal Communication Commission (hereinafter, "FCC") dated May 23, 2001, in WC Docket Number 10-90 (FCC 01-157) (hereinafter, the "Order"), as codified in 47 C.F.R. §54.314, which requires certification to the FCC that all federal Support was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year by carriers within each state only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, as required by Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. §54.7. The Company is also filing this affidavit in compliance with the Orders of the NDPSC dated August 28, 2001, in Case No. PU-439-01-460 and dated August 28, 2002, in Case No. PU-439-02-441. This affidavit is filed to

facilitate the Company's receipt of federal Support for all four quarters of 2015 and for all quarters thereafter.

5. The Company hereby certifies that all federal high-cost support provided to Nemont Telephone Cooperative, Inc. was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to and consistent with Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. §54.7. The Company will use the Support for the following services, as designated in 47 C.F.R. Section 54.101, throughout the Company's study area: (a) voice grade access to the public switched network or its functional equivalent; (b) minutes of use for local service at no additional charge; (c) access to emergency services; and (d) toll limitation services to qualifying low-income consumers.

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2015

NEMONT TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.

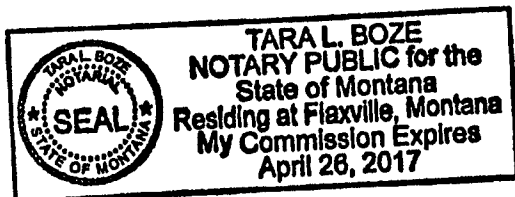
By [Signature]

Remi Sun

Its: Chief Financial Officer

State of Montana     )  
                                  ) ss.  
County of Daniels    )

On this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2015, before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared REMI SUN, known to me to be the Chief Financial Officer of NEMONT TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC., the corporation that is described in and this executed the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that such corporation executed the same.



[Signature], Notary Public  
For the State of Montana  
My Commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. PU-439-02-441  
AND BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION IN WC DOCKET NO. 10-90

AFFIDAVIT OF MIDSTATE COMMUNICATIONS, INC.  
REGARDING  
CERTIFICATION OF USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT

State of North Dakota       )  
  ) ss.  
County of Mountrail       )

Ryan Wilhelmi, being first duly sworn on oath, does hereby declare and state upon affiant's own personal knowledge as follows:

1. Affiant is employed by Midstate Communications, Inc. (hereinafter, the "Company"), in the position of Manager.

2. The Company is an eligible telecommunications carrier within the meaning of Section 214(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (hereinafter, the "Act"), and the Company is eligible to receive federal high-cost universal service support (hereinafter, the "Support") pursuant to Section 254(e) of the Act. The North Dakota Public Service Commission (hereinafter, the "NDPSC") has designated the Company as an eligible telecommunications carrier.

3. Affiant is personally familiar with all of the Support received by the Company, and with how the Company uses all of Support that it receives.

4. The Company is filing this affidavit in compliance with the order of the Federal Communication Commission (hereinafter, "FCC") dated May 23, 2001, in WC Docket Number 10-90 (FCC 01-157) (hereinafter, the "Order"), as codified in 47 C.F.R. § 54.314, which requires certification to the FCC that all federal Support was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year by carriers within each state only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, as required by Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Company is also filing this affidavit in compliance with the Orders of the NDPSC dated August 28, 2001, in Case No. PU-439-01-460 and dated August 28, 2002, in Case No. PU-439-02-441. This affidavit is filed to facilitate the Company's receipt of federal Support for all four quarters of 2014 and for all quarters thereafter.

5. The Company hereby certifies that all federal high-cost support provided to Midstate Communications, Inc. was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to and consistent with Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Company will use the Support for the following services, as designated in 47 C.F.R. Section 54.101, throughout the Company's

Page 1 of 2

study area: (a) voice grade access to the public switched network or its functional equivalent; (b) minutes of use for local service at no additional charge; (c) access to emergency services; and (d) toll limitation services to qualifying low-income consumers.

Dated this 2 day of Sept, 2015.

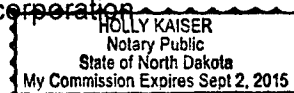
MIDSTATE COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

By *Ryan Wilhelmi*  
Ryan Wilhelmi  
Its: Manager

State of North Dakota     )  
  ) ss.  
County of Mountrail        )

On this 2 day of September, 2015, before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared RYAN WILHELMI, known to me to be the Manager of MIDSTATE COMMUNICATIONS, INC., the corporation that is described in and that executed the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that such corporation executed the same.

*Holly Kaiser*  
Notary Public  
For the State of North Dakota  
My commission expires: Sept 2, 2015



AFFIDAVIT CERTIFYING USE OF  
FEDERAL HIGH-COST AND CONNECT AMERICA FUND SUPPORT

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF OUACHITA

I, the undersigned, under penalty of perjury, state as follows:

1. I am the Executive Vice President of Operations Support and Controller of CenturyLink Inc. ("Carrier")

2. I am a corporate officer of the above mentioned Carrier authorized to certify use of Federal High-Cost and Connect America Fund ("CAF") Support.

3. Carrier is an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") within the meaning of §214(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, has been designated by the North Dakota Public Service Commission as an ETC, and is eligible to receive universal service support pursuant to §254(e) of the Act.

4. Carrier files this affidavit in compliance with the Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC's") Order of May 23, 2001, in Docket No. 96-45, and WC Docket No. 10-90 released in FCC 11-191, November 18, 2011, which requires that each state certify to the FCC that all Federal High-Cost and CAF Support was used during the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended as required by Section §254(e) of the Telecommunications Act.

5. Carrier hereby attests that it has used Federal High-Cost and CAF Support Funds during the preceding calendar year and will use said funds in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to §254(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, regardless of the rule under which that support is provided. CenturyLink is certifying its compliance with 47 C.F.R. 54.313(c) at a holding company level, as allowed per the provisions of DA 13-2101 released October 30, 2013.

Further affiant sayeth not



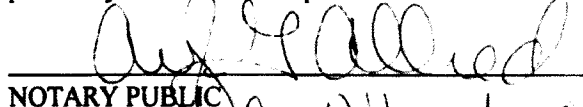
David D. Cole

Executive Vice President of Operations Support and Controller  
CenturyLink, Inc.

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF OUACHITA

Acknowledged before me this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2015, by David D. Cole as Executive Vice President of Operations Support and Controller for CenturyLink, Inc. who is personally known to me or produced identification and who did take an oath.



NOTARY PUBLIC

Amy G. Allread #58514

Printed Name of Notary

My commission expires: upon death

Received & Inspected

SEP 29 2015

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

FCC Mail Room

**Midstate Communications / North Dakota Tel. Co.  
Local Exchange  
Public Convenience & Necessity**

**Case No. PU-15-615**

**Midstate Communications / North Dakota Tel. Co.  
Designated Eligible Carrier  
Application**

**Case No. PU-15-616**

**ORDER**

September 28, 2015

On July 31, 2015, North Dakota Telephone Company (NDTC) and Midstate Communications Inc. (Midstate) filed a joint application requesting authorization for Midstate to relinquish its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to provide local exchange telecommunications services in the area currently known as the York telephone exchange in North Dakota, and requesting approval for NDTC to provide local exchange telecommunications services those customers as part of the current NDTC Leeds telephone exchange in North Dakota, Case No. PU-15-615.

Also on July 31, 2015, NDTC and Midstate filed a joint application for Midstate to relinquish the York telephone exchange from its designated essential telecommunications carrier (ETC) study area for the purpose receiving universal service support, and for NDTC to expand its designated ETC study area to incorporate the York telephone exchange.

In support of the joint applications, NDTC provided an affidavit of Dave Dircks, CEO/General Manager, and Midstate provided an affidavit of Ryan Wilhelmi, Manager.

On August 12, 2015, the Commission issued a Notice of Opportunity for Consolidated Hearing (Notice) that provided until September 25, 2015 for comments and requests for hearing. No comments or requests for hearing were received. The Notice stated that, if deemed appropriate, the Commission can determine the matters without a hearing.

The Notice identified the issues to be considered in Case No. PU-15-615 are:

1. Fitness and ability of NDTC to provide local exchange telecommunications services.
2. Adequacy of NDTC's proposed telecommunications services.

3. Technical, financial and managerial ability of NDTC to provide telecommunications services.
4. Whether, upon granting a certificate of public convenience and necessity to NDTC to provide local exchange telecommunications services in the area currently known as the York telephone exchange, Midstate's certificate of public convenience and necessity should be relinquished.

The Notice identified the issues to be considered in Case No. PU-15-616 are:

1. Qualification of the applicant under the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Section 214(e) for designation as an ETC eligible to receive federal universal service funding.
2. The ETC universal service support area to be designated.
3. Whether it is in the public interest to designate NDTC as an ETC in the York local exchange area for purposes of receiving universal service support.
4. Whether, upon designation of NDTC as an ETC for the York exchange, Midstate's designation as an ETC for the York exchange should be relinquished.

#### Public Convenience and Necessity

NDTC holds certificates of public convenience and necessity to provide local exchange telecommunications services inside twenty five telephone exchanges serving approximately 11,800 North Dakota access lines. NDTC is designated as an ETC for the purpose of receiving federal universal service support in a study area that encompasses those North Dakota telephone exchanges. NDTC holds Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity Number 5521 to provide local exchange telecommunications services inside the Leeds, North Dakota telephone exchange.

Midstate holds Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Number 5740 to provide local exchange telecommunications services inside the York local exchange area, serving twenty North Dakota access lines. Midstate is designated as an ETC for the purpose of receiving federal universal service support in a study area that encompasses the Beach and the York local telephone exchanges in North Dakota.

Midstate will continue to provide local exchange service until all customers in the York exchange have been connected to NDTC's Fiber to the Premise project. The anticipated start date of the project will be October 1, 2015 with completion by December 31, 2015.

The Commission finds that NDTC is fit and able to provide telecommunications services, from its Leeds telephone exchange, to the customers served in the York telephone exchange geographic area.

The Commission finds that the telecommunications services NDTC proposes to provide to the geographic area currently known as the York telephone exchange are adequate.

The Commission finds that NDTC has the technical, financial and managerial ability to provide telecommunications service to the geographic area currently known as the York telephone exchange.

NDTC will provide telecommunications service to the geographic area currently known as the York telephone exchange as an incumbent local exchange carrier.

Midstate's certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing it to provide local exchange telecommunications services in the York exchange should be relinquished.

#### Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier

The federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Act) provides for financial support to a common carrier that (1) offers the services established by the FCC to be supported by Federal universal service support mechanisms either using its own facilities or a combination of its own facilities and resale of another carrier's services; (2) advertises the availability of such services and the charges for such services using media of general distribution; and (3) is designated as an ETC. An ETC must use that financial support only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.

To be designated as an ETC, the carrier must (1) under Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 47 Subpart B, offer to telecommunications customers each of the services and functionalities designated for federal universal service support; and (2) under CFR Part 47 § 54.405, make available Lifeline service to qualifying low-income consumers.

For telecommunications customers, the services designated by the FCC for support by universal service support mechanisms include voice grade access to the public switched network or its functional equivalent; minutes of use for local service provided at no additional charge to end users; access to the emergency services provided by local government or other public safety organizations, such as 911 and enhanced 911, to the extent the local government in an eligible carrier's service area has implemented 911 or enhanced 911 systems; and toll limitation services to qualifying low-income consumers.

In the affidavit of Dave Dircks, NDTC, affirms that it will continue to meet the obligations of an ETC in the expanded Leeds telephone exchange. NDTC also affirms that no waiver of ETC criteria is requested.

The Commission finds NDTC's application for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier under North Dakota Administrative Code section 69-09-05-12 is complete including the required affirmations and certifications.

The Commission finds NDTC is qualified under Section 214(e) of the federal Communications Act of 1934 as amended by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier for receiving federal universal service funding for the proposed designated service area.

For purposes of federal universal service funding, the designated expanded service area for NDTC is a rural study area.

Based on the evidence in this proceeding, NDTC is qualified under the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Section 214(e) for designation as an ETC to receive federal universal service funding and it is in the public interest that NDTC be designated as an ETC in the requested designated expanded service area.

### **Order**

#### **The Commission Orders:**

1. North Dakota Telephone Company's application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to provide incumbent local exchange telecommunications services in the area currently known as the York telephone exchange to become part of the current NDTC Leeds telephone exchange in North Dakota is approved.
2. North Dakota Telephone Company is issued First Amended Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Number 5521 to provide local exchange telecommunications services inside the expanded Leeds, North Dakota telephone exchange.
3. North Dakota Telephone Company's request for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier in the expanded Leeds telephone exchange is granted and North Dakota Telephone Company is designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier in the expanded Leeds telephone exchange area in North Dakota.
4. Midstate Communications Inc.'s Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Number 5740 to provide local exchange telecommunications services inside the York, North Dakota telephone exchange area is relinquished and cancelled.

5. Midstate Communications Inc.'s designation as an essential telecommunications carrier in the York exchange area is relinquished and cancelled.

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

		
<b>Randy Christmann</b> Commissioner	<b>Julie Fedorchak</b> Chairman	<b>Brian P. Kalk</b> Commissioner

# **PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

## **STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**

### **Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity**

#### **First Amended Certificate Number 5521**

*This is to certify that public convenience and necessity require, and permission is granted for North Dakota Telephone Company, a telecommunications public utility, to provide local exchange telecommunications services inside the amended Leeds, North Dakota local exchange area.*


*This certificate is issued in Case No. PU-15-615 and is conditioned upon North Dakota Telephone Company securing the franchise or other authority of the proper municipal or other public authority for the exercise of these rights and privileges.*

*Bismarck, North Dakota, September 28, 2015.*

**ATTEST:**

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

  
**Executive Secretary**

  
**Commissioner**



*More Than a Telephone Company!*

211 22nd St NW, PO Box 180  
Devils Lake, ND 58301-0180  
701-662-1100 or 1-800-880-4213  
Fax 701-662-6446  
www.goNDTC.com

September 28, 2015

North Dakota Public Service Commission  
600 East Boulevard Avenue  
State Capitol – 12th Floor  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Re: Supplement to USF Certification B Case Nos. PU-439-01-460 & PU-439-02-441

Dear Commissioners:

North Dakota Telephone Company ("NDTC") filed on July 27, 2015 in the above-referenced proceeding the attached Affidavit certifying that federal high-cost support provided to NDTC was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended. On September 28, the North Dakota Public Service Commission granted Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") status to an additional geographic area, formerly the Midstate Communications York exchange, which will be incorporated into the NDTC Leeds exchange, pending federal approvals.

NDTC hereby supplements the July 27, 2015 Affidavit to certify that upon obtaining federal approvals federal high-cost support for the expanded Leeds exchange will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.

Dated this 28<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2015.

NORTH DAKOTA TELEPHONE COMPANY

By: [Signature]  
Dave Dircks, General Manager

State of North Dakota     )  
  )  
Ramsey County             )

On this 28<sup>th</sup> date in September, 2015, before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared Dave Dircks, known to me to be the manager of North Dakota Telephone Company ("the Affiant"). The Affiant, after first being duly sworn, deposes and certifies that the statements made herein are true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Subscribed and sworn before me this

28<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2015.

[Signature]  
(NOTARY PUBLIC)

